

## House Republican Press Release

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Press Office: 860-240-8700

### **Rep. Bacchiochi: Measure Will Help Protect Consumers from Identity Theft, Bank Fraud**



Legislation approved by the state House of Representatives this week will help protect consumers from becoming victims of identity theft and bank fraud, state Representative Penny Bacchiochi, R-52<sup>nd</sup> District, said today.

“Identity theft has become one of the most common crimes committed in Connecticut and other states around the country over the past few years and, as more consumers shop and pay their bills electronically, bank fraud involving identity theft is also becoming more frequent,” said Representative Bacchiochi, who supported the measure (House Bill 6831) in a vote on the floor of the House on Wednesday (May 4<sup>th</sup>).

“Identity theft crimes can be devastating to both individuals and families,” Representative Bacchiochi said. “It is a particularly vicious crime that can ruin a victim’s credit rating – sometimes for years. When bank fraud is involved, it can wipe out savings and checking accounts. Both crimes are a very real threat to the financial security of Connecticut residents.”

“If this bill becomes law, it will make it easier for law enforcement agencies and financial institutions to share information about potential identity theft and bank fraud threats and take precautions to protect consumers,” Representative Bacchiochi said.

The bill, which passed the House Wednesday on a unanimous vote, now awaits final legislative action by the State Senate.